Humanitarian Relief Planning for Iraq

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Current Humanitarian Situation

- Decreased post-Gulf War living standards, but improvements since OFF, especially in North
- Heavy reliance on OFF, distro system
 - All Iraqis get food rations
 - 60% as only food source
 - Run by UN (North) and GOI (South/Center) with 55,000 ration agents
 - Also provides most medicines
- 800,000 Iraqis internally displaced
- 740,000 Iraqi refugees in neighboring countries

Iraqi Social Indicators		
<u> </u>	Pre-Gulf War	<u>2001</u>
GDP per capita (USD)	\$4,714	\$2,475
Life expectancy	62 years	56 years
Infant mortality (est.)	72 / 1,000	92 / 1,000
Daily calories per capita	2,932	2,232
Literacy rate	55%	58%

Background

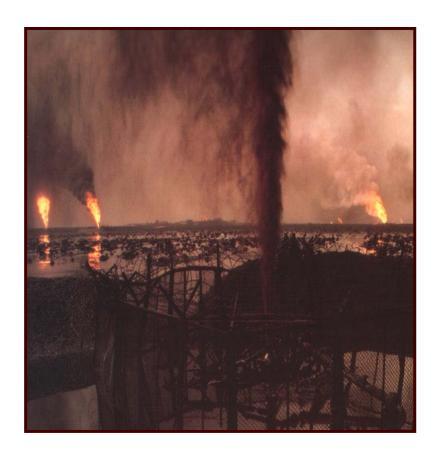
- President Bush has repeatedly stressed the hope that Iraq will disarm and avoid war.
- If force becomes necessary, the USG recognizes the potential for adverse humanitarian consequences.
- The USG is devoting unprecedented attention to the prevention and mitigation of humanitarian consequences.
- However, this is not entirely within our control; much depends on the behavior of Saddam Hussein.



Saddam's Asymmetric Threats

- Use of Weapons of Mass Destruction
- Co-location of military assets with civilian facilities
- Deliberate targeting of civilians
- Forced population displacements
- Destruction of infrastructure
- Fomenting of ethnic tensions





Planning Assumptions

- Conflict may have three broad impacts:
 - Increase displacement mostly toward borders
 - Interrupt Oil-For-Food due to UN evacuation, increased shipping insurance costs, distribution disruption
 - Disrupt electricity affecting urban water supply and health services
- Most UN agencies/NGOs will evacuate



Key Principles

- USG Relief Planning relies on six key principles:
 - Minimize displacement, damage to the humanitarian infrastructure, and disruption of services
 - Rely primarily on civilian relief agencies
 - Facilitation of IO/NGO operations
 - Effective civil-military coordination
 - Pre-positioning of USG relief supplies
 - Support to the resumption of the Oil-For-Food Ration Distribution System

Humanitarian Relief Concept of Operations

- Goal: Limit undue humanitarian suffering and support stability by protecting the humanitarian infrastructure, minimizing displacement, and maximizing the aid provided to those in need
- Create 'humanitarian space'/facilitate UN/NGO operations
- Provide relief as forces advance via civilian Disaster Assistance Response Teams (DARTs) and Civil-Military Operations Centers
- USG will assist via USG relief supplies (initially) and then by funding UN/NGOs/contractors and supporting the resumption of the ration distribution component of Oil-For-Food

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DoD and UN/NGO Operations

- DoD is not the lead agency for humanitarian relief activities, nor will it control or direct others in the provision of relief.
- DoD recognizes the unparalleled expertise and capacity of the United Nations Relief Agencies, ICRC, other international organizations and NGOs.
- In cooperation with State and USAID, DoD will continue extensive outreach to international and non-governmental organizations on relief issues.

USG Relief Supplies

- Use during bridging period until UN/NGOs commence operations
- Goal: USG relief supplies (non-food) for 1 mil people in the region
- Humanitarian Daily Rations (HDRs)
 - 3 million available in Kuwait and other locations
- Contractors quickly provide tech support, equipment (e.g., generators), vital for water/sanitation sector
- Commercial transport used to move relief goods into and within theater
- DART/CMOC -- Direct transport, distribution, allocation

Conclusions

The Department of Defense:

- Is addressing humanitarian relief before, during, and after conflict.
- Supports a comprehensive USG interagency approach to humanitarian relief for Iraq that factors in and facilitates UN/NGO planning.
- Encourages the contributions and participation of coalition partners, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, and the UN in meeting the needs of a post-war Iraq, should force become

necessary.